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Countdown to graduation

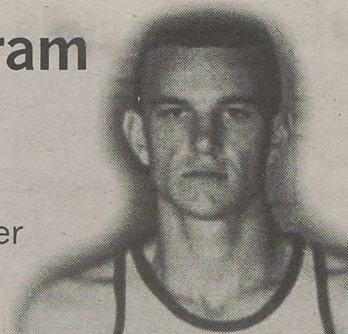
As the big day nears, there are issues to consider

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Basketball program to honor Webb

Halftime ceremony planned for Saturday's game at Hanner

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Thursday, January 28, 2010
Volume 82 • Issue 51
Serving Georgia Southern
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THE GEORGE-ANNE

3 OVER 3

From Keel's letter to the University:

"Feedback I have received has overwhelmingly stated that taking three days out of one pay period is an extreme hardship for all employees, and especially our lower paid employees."



Three days of furlough for faculty, staff now spread over three months

Charles MINSHEW • editor-in-chief

Georgia Southern President Brooks Keel announced Tuesday that faculty and staff would take this semester's three furlough days over a three-month period rather than all three during the week of spring break as previously decided by former GSU President Bruce Grube.

In an e-mail message addressed to "the University Community" on Tuesday, Keel wrote, "feedback I have received has overwhelmingly stated that taking three days out of one pay period is an extreme hardship for all employees, and especially our lower paid employees."

Faculty and staff members will have to work with their departments to choose furlough days in February, March and April that do not conflict with class schedules or meetings.

Michael Moore serves as the moderator of the faculty senate. Moore said that the faculty senate had not been consulted about this move and that Tuesday's announcement came as a surprise.

"His e-mail kind of was surprising because there hadn't been any direct pressure that I knew of," Moore said. "But I hear from

faculty on a regular basis about the issues of class size, the issues of budget, if we're going to cut, how are we going to do it?"

Moore said that GSU made it known to the Board of Regents that furloughs were not necessary for the university last year.

"We tried to make this clear, as an institution, last year, that Georgia Southern did not have to furlough," Moore said. "We could make our cuts without furloughing and we told the chancellor."

Michelle Haberland, an associate professor in the department of history, said that the furloughs in November had a tremendous impact on her, and that while she doesn't agree with furloughs, she was happy about Keel's decision.

"My first reaction was one of happiness," Haberland said. "I was very delighted to see that President Keel had taken this action. I think it's a reasonable one in light of the furloughs and certainly one that will help the very lowly paid staff endure the pain of these pay cuts."

Furloughs by the numbers

6 Number of mandatory furlough days in fiscal year 2010

3 The number of furlough days that remain

3 The number of months that furloughs are spread out across

\$23,660 Those making less than this amount are not furloughed

Compiled by The George-Anne staff
Information provided by the University System of Georgia

See **FURLOUGH** Page 3



Finished?
Recycle this newspaper!



Today
65 | 36
Clear



Friday
59 | 43
Mostly Cloudy

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SOAR begins service project

Vincent GARRETT
guest writer

SOAR is collecting children's books, among other items, as part of their 2010 service project for the opening of the Family Scholar House Children's Library.

The Family Scholar House, which is based out of Louisville, Ky., provides single-parent households with necessities and tools for learning and educational success. They also house some families with a 56 apartment campus.

SOAR is collecting the items for this charity in conjunction with other schools as a part of Southern Regional Orientation Workshop. SROW is a place orientation groups from all

over the South compete for titles in three different categories: service, educational, and song, skit and dance.

SOAR has won the service award for the past two years. This year, SOAR wants to exceed the 40 boxes of school supplies it collected last year.

"It allows us to represent our university and show that we are service-oriented and that we can extend our service to communities other than our own," 2010 SOAR leader Natalie Boatright said.

SOAR's main plan for attaining the needed supplies is through appeals to the student organizations on campus, which are asked to collect as many items as they can from the list located on the SOAR Web site.

The organization that collects the

most books for this charity will be given the first table at "First Night Out," which is the biggest orientation event of the year put on for incoming freshmen.

"It gives the organizations a little competition and a goal to reach toward because the first table at First Night Out is the most important," SOAR leader Jasmine Cutler said.

Student organizations will be setting up boxes to collect the items for SOAR in and around the Russell Union.

If you would like to help with this project, contact SOAR at 912-GSU-SOAR.

For a complete list of items, visit their Web site at admissions.georgiasouthern.edu/orientation.

FURLOUGH

from page 1

Brian Hooks, chairman of the staff council, said that the announcement came as a surprise to him as well. Hooks said that the council met with Keel and knew that the suggestion of spreading the furlough days was under consideration and that he was not expecting a decision so soon.

Hooks said, "[In August,] we had no opportunity to give any opinion on how to implement this plan, and this year with our first meeting with Dr.

Keel, we expressed all of our concerns with all of our furlough days being in one week or one paycheck was very difficult to deal with."

Hooks added that staff members would have to work with their departments in order to stagger furlough days. He said university operations would not be effected.

Jessica Hatton, the laboratory coordinator for the department of geology and geography, said that she was happy that Keel made the changes to the policy.

"It's wonderful," Hatton said. "It literally brightened my day when

I got the group e-mail sent to the faculty. It seemed to lift everyone's spirit. It was wonderful news."

Hatton said that having three days of pay taken out of one of her paychecks in the fall was tough to deal with, and that while there still is a pay cut, it will be easier to plan ahead of time for the cuts each month.

"A huge, huge chunk of my paycheck was cut," she said. "Even though it's the same amount of money, essentially we're still getting a pay cut. With it sort of being given up once day per month rather than three all in one pay check, it's just less of a hit."

Corrections

- The performance of the United States Air Force Reserve Band will be tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center.
- Julie Kuykendall is the former Fitness Program Director at the RAC.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community. Opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers and editors and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board or the University System of Georgia. The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives at www.gadaily.com.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising as a community service to help defray publication costs. Inquiries should be directed to the ADS or PAGES, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, or by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478-0566. You can fax any questions to 912.478.7113 or e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

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SUPPORT: The George-Anne is funded primarily through revenue from advertisements placed in the paper and receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

STUDENTS BEWARE: The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The magazine strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to

exercise caution when replying to ads—particularly those which require a credit card number, other personal information, or money in advance of the delivery of a product or service. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director.

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NOTICE: Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

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Our View

We've all made sacrifices

Furloughs are tough things to deal with in this time of economic downturn, but the fact that there have been no layoffs at Georgia Southern should provide some comfort to faculty and staff experiencing these pay cuts.

However, it was probably not a great idea to bundle the first three furlough days together before Thanksgiving break just to save money by shutting down the university. The same scenario had been expected for the week of spring break.

With that said, Brooks Keel's decision to spread the furlough dates over the next three months will provide more comfort for faculty and staff members.

While furloughs are a bad thing, they're much more acceptable than job cuts. Having less money is better than having no money at all. Better yet, these furloughs won't halt the operation of campus. Employees must use furlough days when they don't have classes or meetings.

It is true, however, as Staff Council Chairman Bryan Hooks has said, furloughs have had a

tremendous impact on some staff members, especially in situations where both members of a couple are employees at GSU.

Michael Moore, who serves as the faculty senate moderator, have said that "Georgia Southern did not have to furlough."

It's noteworthy to point out that these furloughs were mandated by the Board of Regents.

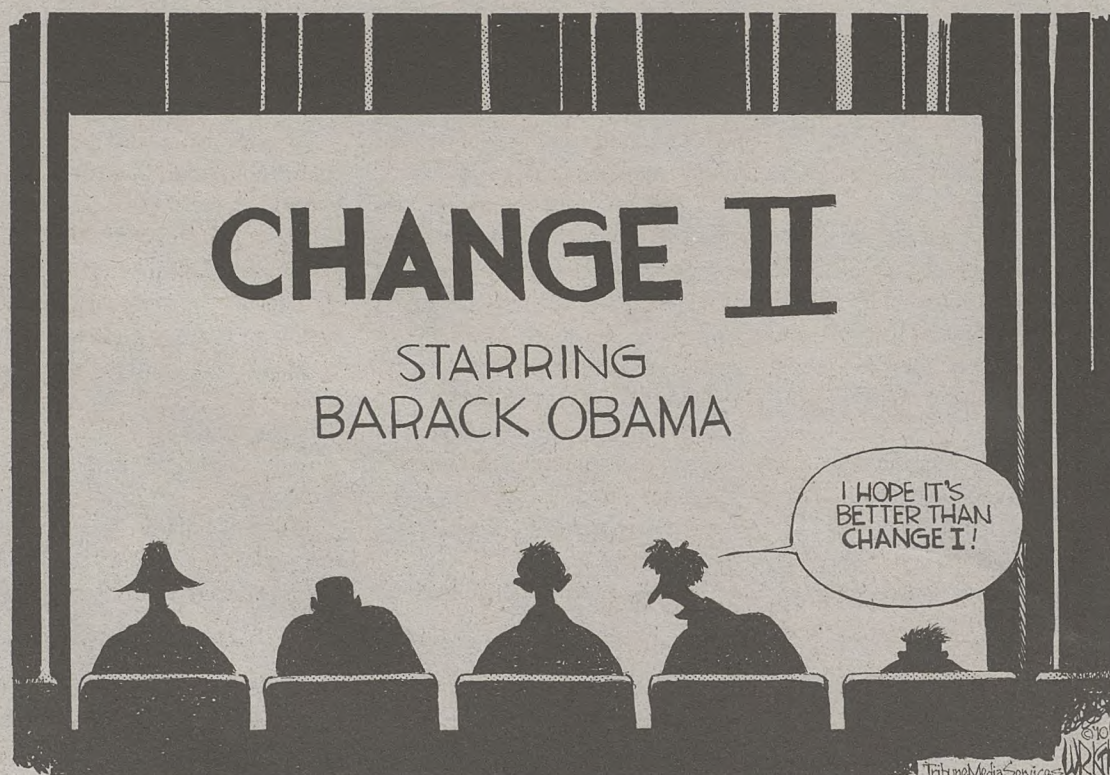
The Board of Regents also mandated budget cuts that has left GSU's budget 20 percent slimmer than it was one year ago. The same Board approved institutional fees on students that now total an additional \$200 per semester.

While faculty and staff might feel they are alone in the pain, they are not. The students are making sacrifices too. Everyone is making a sacrifice in their wallets.

It is time for everyone to remember that if it were not for the students, there would be no Georgia Southern University. The same can be said for faculty, staff and administrators.

But, as this talk of furloughs and pay cuts continue, the following question remains.

Is everyone doing enough?



More than just a tree to some

As you have no doubt already seen in the pages of Tuesday's George-Anne, or at gadaily.com, the large tree that stood next to the Williams Center for decades was finally cut down after branches began to fall away due to internal rotting. At first, I thought little of the tree being cut down. Then I began to think of all the history that tree has seen over the years.

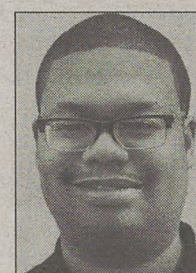
The Williams Center was constructed in 1959, and served as the campus' student union before the Russell Union. When it was built, the now deceased tree was already there, waiting to provide students, faculty, and staff with decades of shade, a place to play, and even a place to see squirrels congregate and scamper about.

Walking towards the Williams Center has become a new -- and for now disconcerting -- experience without the grand oak being there. I made my way to the area where the tree once stood, and was stunned by how different the place not only looked, but felt. Monday saw most of the tree gone.

By Tuesday, it was as if the tree had never been there, with only a stump standing where once a large and mighty oak was.

Now is the time to think back and reflect on what has transpired on this campus -- and in

Statesboro -- while that tree was around. The tree was here during both World Wars, the Civil Rights movement, the Kennedy assassination, and the September 11 attacks. It was around for such a long time that no one is even sure of how long it was there. Perhaps it was one of the oaks planted by college president Guy Wells during the 1930s. Regardless, it has been around to experience numerous events in campus history.



Robert Greene II is a graduate student in history from Augusta, Ga. He is a guest columnist for The George-Anne.

The Williams Center tree saw this campus begin, grow, and nearly die during the World War II era. The tree saw the campus integrate in 1965, and also saw the ceremony to honor that event 40 years later. Not too far from the old tree's location, Erk Russell held a press conference at Hanner Fieldhouse announcing the return of Georgia Southern football. Who knows how many students walked by the tree while going to work at The George-Anne, the Southern Reflector magazine, or 91.9 The Buzz radio station?

Beyond nostalgia, it's a chance to think about what the university can do to protect and preserve other trees on campus. Over time, other oaks on campus will have to be defended against rot and decay in whatever way possible. Otherwise, the university will lose the traditional campus feel that has made Georgia Southern unique for so many years.

For now, make sure to savor the natural beauty of the campus around us. You never know when it will be gone.

THE
GEORGE-ANNE

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A Nobel should be returned

And no, I'm not talking about Obama; rather, I'm referring to the International Panel of Climate Change. It turns out that when they split the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore, they weren't exactly being entirely scientific with their work – an accusation that was once leveled at critics of global warming.

To make a long story short, the IPCC used figures that were never vetted by the scientific method. Its lead scientist, Dr. Murari Lal, admitted to using the faulty statistics for a political angle in regards to the “vanishing” of glaciers.

Whether you believe in human-caused global warming or not, you cannot support the idea of anyone using bad science and claiming it as worthy of note, much less a major award. If global warming IS real – and I always had my doubts – this is a blow to its credibility.

For those of us who don't believe in it, this is yet another nail in the coffin that is being built around the concept.

For the world, though, it is an insult pure and simple.

Arguably the most well-known award in the world was given in part to the IPCC for their so-called “findings.” Any trust the world had in the Nobel Prize has now been violated by this, and those who won it for genuine achievements in world peace have had their victories cheapened. Further, it insults true scientists of all stripes who have diligently



John DiPietro is a junior political science major from John's Creek, Ga. He is a staff columnist for The George-Anne.

followed the scientific method in their own work, even when it would be faster and easier to take findings as they are without any double-checking or peer review.

The Nobel Committee should not have given any awards for the findings in the first place. If anything, it falls under physics, unless the person or group made a true, demonstrable effort to curb the effect – which is, it is worth saying, not universally accepted – and in doing so created peace.

Now, to make up for it, the Committee should strip the IPCC of its award unless it relinquishes it voluntarily. It is no less than what would happen to the author of any other award-winning paper whose work was later discredited for not following the method.

Don't tarnish the Nobel any longer – it should be given or taken back.

One moment leads to a look back

For most of my life, while I generally don't get emotional, I do get wildly sentimental. There are little moments that take me back to bigger things, and one of those places is at Georgia Southern.

Longer than anyone here can probably remember, a large oak has stood beside the building on the Founder's Terrace, shading the entire area during all seasons. If you've walked by there, you know what I'm talking about.

This weekend, though, the tree fell. It was hollow on the inside and finally collapsed without any support.

Graduating in May, I've watched



James Kicklighter is a senior public relations from Claxton, Ga. He is a staff columnist for The George-Anne.

Johnson weren't there, as I lived in Johnson as a freshman. I would visit friends in Winburn and Oliff all the time; we'd jump across

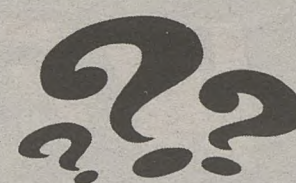
a lot of things change since I came here as a freshman in 2006. Walking through Centennial Place the other day, I couldn't help but think how strange it was that Winburn, Oliff and

the parking lot. We were just under 16,000 students then, while today, we're just under 20,000 – a difference you can feel just walking around the pedestrian.

As the oak tree grew and grew, it seemed that it couldn't support any of its weight, because the branches grew to heavy to hold. I suppose this is the great worry that I have, and a lot of people share.

We have grown so quickly over the past few years, so fast that it's hard to keep up with the growth.

I just hope that what has made Georgia Southern special doesn't grow hollow as we grow because I sure would hate to see it fall.



Weekly Poll at GADaily.com

Do you think the NCAA punished the men's basketball team appropriately?

- They deserved every bit of it. **41.2%**
- I don't even know what happened. **39.7%**
- It was reasonable. **13.2%**
- I think it was too harsh. **5.9%**

For next week's poll question, visit GADaily.com.



Man on the Street

The G-A staff takes to the Pedestrium to get the student, faculty and staff's take on things.

If you could change one thing about the GSU campus, what would you change?



“The distance between Southern Courtyard and Chick-fil-A ... because I work there.”

Patrick Wells
exercise science, freshman



“The price of the dorms. I'd rather live on campus, but I'm forced to financially live off campus.”

Toni Carlson
interior design, freshman



“The food ... the lines are usually very long, and they are very slow about getting their food out.”

Angela Robles
pre-vet chemistry, freshman



“Our student center. Compared to what other schools have, we are very far behind.”

Drew Simpson
sports management, freshman

We want to hear from you!

The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor.

Submit your thoughts on our community to gamed@georgiasouthern.edu.



WEEKLY BUZZ

Thursday, January 28th

OSLCE: Blood Drive

George-Anne

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Eagle Rally, Russell Union Commons

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Bouldering Night Out, RAC Climbing Wall

Friday, January 29th

Eagle Camp Applications Due, Office of Student Activities

7 and 9 PM Eagle Entertainment Movie: Where the Wild Things Are, Russell Union Theatre

Saturday, January 30th

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Canoeing 101 Clinic, Southern Adventures, RAC Aquatic Center

Sunday, January 24th

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Eagle Camp Information Session, Russell Union Student Center, Room 2047

Monday, February 1st

OSLCE: Leadership Week

Intramural Soccer entries due, RAC

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM OSLCE: Leadership Lunch Discussion, Russell Union 2080

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM OSLCE: Blake Mycoskie Lecture, Performing Arts Center

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM Soccer Officials Clinic, RAC Seminar Room

Tuesday, February 2nd

OSLCE: Leadership Week

George-Anne

Intramural Soccer entries due, RAC

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM OSLCE: Leadership Lunch Discussion, Russell Union 2080

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM OSLCE: LeaderShape Info Session

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM OSLCE: Leadership Workshop, Russell Union 2041

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM GSU Unplugged, Starbucks

Wednesday, February 3rd

OSLCE: Leadership Week

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM OSA: Getting Involved Fair, Russell Union Commons

11:35 AM - 1:00 PM Battle to the Bone: Wing Eating Contest, Russell Union Rotunda



Proposal in works to bring former president to campus

Natalie DEMARKO
guest writer

When an autographed copy of former President Jimmy Carter's memoir was presented to the Zach S. Henderson Library by the Peace Studies Faculty Learning Community, the group did so with additional hopes in mind.

Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, the founder of the Peace Studies Faculty Learning Community, had the idea of bringing the Carters to speak at Georgia Southern.

"President Carter, the first Southern president in 120 years, set a tone for peace in the White House that drew me to his work and efforts," she said. "He stood up for civil rights in the South where he and Rosalynn have been workers for peace in the finest sense of the word."

Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, both born and raised in Georgia, founded the Carter Center in 1982.

The Center is nonprofit, nonpartisan establishment that addresses national and international issues of public policy.

For the past year, the Peace Studies Faculty Learning Community has been working on a proposal of an invitation to send to the Carters.

"The process for getting the Carters to come and speak on campus is anything but easy," Jonathan Harwell, the Collection Development and Assessment Librarian at Henderson Library and former Peace Studies Faculty Learning Community facilitator, said. "You can't just call or send an e-mail."

Talking with a number of resources, discovering information about the invitation process and long hours of preparation has

been the Learning Community's strategy.

"We will soon share the proposal with the college deans on campus and with Lisa Leege, director of the Office of Sustainability," Stallworth-Clark said. "We hope to have the proposal in the office of Dr. Teresa Thompson, vice president of student affairs and enrollment management, by Feb. 1."

Although the Peace Studies Community has been working on the proposal, it would be GSU President Brooks Keel who would initiate the process by extending an invitation to the Carters.

"The decision to take the proposal to President Keel rests with Dr. Thompson," Stallworth-Clark said. "She has stated that she is willing to entertain the proposal for bringing the Carters to campus if we can get strong support from the Office of Sustainability and the College of Public Health."

Stallworth-Clark believes it would be beneficial to students if the Carters came to GSU.

"It is Georgia Southern's great loss that the Carters have never shared their work and visions here," Stallworth-Clark said. "Our students need to meet the Carters and to learn from them. They have lessons to teach about leadership and civic engagement that we all need to learn."

Jimmy Carter's book, "Keeping Faith: Memoirs of a President," has been added to the other rare books in the Special Collections series located on the fourth floor in the library, but the donation is part of the Peace Studies Collection.

The Collection was started in 2008 by the Peace Studies Learning Community, and anyone can contribute to the collection.

Snow provides winter fun for everyone regardless of age



Charles Minshew/STAFF

Snowball fights ensued yesterday as students were given the chance to experience the joys of traditional winter when snow created by Snow South was brought to GSU.

Derek JOYCE
staff writer

Eagle Entertainment brought a flurry of snow to Georgia Southern from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. yesterday between the Williams Center and the Herty Building.

"This [was] an opportunity for people in South Georgia who don't normally have the opportunity to play in the snow [to] have the chance to," said Sriravong "Swerve" Sriratanakoul, Eagle Entertainment activities coordinator. "Like Lil' Wayne can make it rain, I can make it snow."

Accompanied by hot cocoa and marshmallows, those who went to the snow pit were free to do as they wished.

"I didn't expect it. A friend told me there was a

snow day, and I had no idea what she was talking about," said William Mayes, a GSU student.

This event was the brainchild of Gigi Gonzales, a program coordinator for Eagle Entertainment.

"I figured it would be an easy way to have everyone have fun on a day where it doesn't normally snow in Statesboro," said Gonzales.

The snow was provided by Snow South, a company that provides 300-pound ice blocks for numerous purposes.

Originally, the ice was used for personal or family ice boxes. Now, they make business by selling snow days on the road.

"I think it is working real well. It draws a lot of curiosity. Considering how cold it is today, the snow seems to be holding up real well," said Andy Jameson, Snow South owner.



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Happy Hour All Day Every Day

- **Thursday:** 9 oz. Prime Rib for \$10.95; Dr. Don
- **Friday:** Russell White
- **Saturday:** Do Good DJs
- **Sunday:** Kids Eat Free
- **Monday:** Thai Spiced Tilapia for \$8.95
- **Tuesday:** Filet Mignon Beef Tips for \$10.95
- **Wednesday:** 1 1/2 Lb. Alaskan Snow Crab
for \$14.95

*"If you are under the age of 21, it is against the law
to buy alcoholic beverages."*

FEATURED BAND




Special photo

Left to right: Cameron Flener, Jason "DEP" Reed, Angel, Chris Eddins.

Velcro Pygmies

Performing at **Retrievers** tonight,
the Velcro Pygmies return to Statesboro
to deliver the loudest rock n' roll hits.

Drink specials tonight:
\$1 Rum and Daquiris



More "Good Time" Money

TEXTBOOK BROKERS

Sell me your books, calculators, and clickers
for the most cash

**WE BUYBACK
ALL YEAR LONG!**

912.225.1400

POLICE BEAT

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

▲ Officers assisted 13 motorists, issued two traffic citations, issued six traffic warnings, responded to one traffic accident and responded to one injured person call.

▲ A theft was reported from the Recreation Activity Center.

▲ University Housing reported a theft of property.

Thursday, January 21, 2010

▲ Officers issued three traffic citations, issued one traffic warning, assisted four motorists, assisted one injured person, responded to one alarm and investigated two accidents.

▲ A textbook was taken from the University Store.

▲ A Chick-Fil-A employee reported receiving harassing phone calls.

▲ Joseph Christopher Rogers, 24, Warren Heights Drive, Augusta, was charged with theft by shoplifting.

▲ Corey Jaymes Hill, 19, Copper Beach, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol, theft of a bicycle, obstruction of an officer and possession of a false ID.

Friday, January 22, 2010

▲ Officers issued two traffic citations, issued six traffic warnings, assisted three motorists and investigated two accidents.

Saturday, January 23, 2010

▲ Officers issued one traffic citation, issued four traffic warnings, assisted one motorist, assisted another agency and responded to four alarms.

▲ Alexander Julian Fant, 19, Statesboro Place, was charged with DUI and failure to meet headlight requirements.

▲ Matthew Garrett Foster, 19, Dowling Drive, Martinez, was charged with minor in possession/consumption and obstruction of an officer.

▲ Samuel Hall Low, 19, Georgia Avenue, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol, pedestrian under the influence and possession of marijuana.

Sunday, January 24, 2010

▲ Officers issued three traffic citations, issued four traffic warnings, assisted four motorists, responded to a loud noise complaint at University Villas.

▲ A door was damaged at Centennial Place.

▲ John David Wilson, 18, Southern Courtyard, was charged with DUI, minor in possession/consumption of alcohol, possession of a weapon in a school safety zone, open container violation and failure to maintain lane.

Monday, January 25, 2010

▲ Officers issued one traffic citation, issued two traffic warnings, assisted three motorists and responded to one alarm.

▲ A bicycle tire was taken from a bike at Eagle Village.

▲ A book bag was taken from the Henderson Library.

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

▲ Officers assisted five motorists, responded to one alarm and investigated three accidents.

▲ A counterfeit bill was reported at Eagle Dining.

▲ A wallet was taken from Hanner Fieldhouse.

▲ A book bag was taken from the Recreation Activity Center.

ATTENTION GSU COMMUNITY

Georgia Southern will activate an outdoor alarm siren TODAY as part of a demonstration. The siren will sound from Sweetheart Circle around 2 p.m. and may be heard over a large part of campus.

This is only a test; no action on the part of campus is necessary.

Life After College

CASH
PRIZES GIVEN

UP TO \$200!

Wednesday, February 10
10am-3pm
Russell Union Rooms
2080, 2084, & 2044

Tips & Tools to Jumpstart Your Career!

Schedule of Events

10am-10:30am

Session A:

Interviewing Skills, Kristen Cassidy, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, RU 2080

Session B:

Resume Writing, Ryan Jacobson, Target Stores, RU 2084

11am-11:30am

Session A:

How to Work a Career Fair Panel, Kristen Cassidy, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Ryan Jacobson, Target Stores, Madie Martin, GEICO, RU 2080

Session B:

Financial Planning for your Future, Wayne Skinner, Wells, RU 2084

12pm-12:30pm

Session A:

Professionalism in the Workplace, Michael Washington, Wal-Mart, RU 2080

Session B:

Resume Writing, Ryan Jacobson, Target Stores, RU 2084

Session C:

The Federal Job Search Process, Lisa Hoffs, IRS, RU 2044

1pm-1:30pm

Session A:

Professionalism in the Workplace, Michael Washington, Wal-Mart, RU 2080

Session B:

Interviewing Skills, Madie Martin, GEICO, RU 2084

2pm-2:30pm

Session A:

Graduate School Planning, Toby Ziger, Georgia Southern Administrators, RU 2080

Session B:

Job Search Strategies for a Tough Economy, Heather Soriano, Georgia Southern Career Services, RU 2084

**Keynote Speaker Martin Yate: New York Times Best Selling
Author of the Knock 'Em Dead Books
3:30pm and 7:00pm, Nessmith-Lane Assembly Hall
Sponsored by CLEC & Career Services**

You must register in advance to attend by Friday, February 5!
Please register online at: <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/career>
and click on the Life After College button. If you have any questions,
please call 912-478-5197 for more information.

LOCAL BRIEFS

RUSH comes to close Wednesday

Spring RUSH for Greek Life began on Sunday and concluded Wednesday. During the week, fraternities and sororities of the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Association recruited new members into their chapters. RUSH takes place at the beginning of each fall and spring. For more information on Greek Life, visit students.georgiasouthern.edu/greeklife.

McGaughey awarded Gilman scholarship

Georgia Southern University Honors Program sophomore and Macon, Ga. native Anna McGaughey has been awarded the prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and the Institute of International Education, the Gilman award provides money for student travel and studies overseas. McGaughey will use the scholarship to travel to Denmark in February, where she will attend Roskilde University during the spring.



Cassie, left, and Kate Beasley were recent finalists for the Harbuck Scholarship.

Sisters finalists for Harbuck Scholarship

Two Georgia Southern students -- both with 4.0 GPAs and members of the Honors Program -- were recent finalists for the Harbuck Scholarship.

Sisters Kate and Cassie Beasley were also both winners of the 1906 Scholarship.

Kate has a double major in creative writing and Spanish, while Cassie has her major in creative writing and a double minor in English and Spanish.

Compiled by The George-Anne

*Sponsored by The Center for Sustainability,
Campus Life Enrichment Committee, & University Wellness Program*

MAJORA CARTER

Lecture

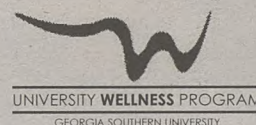
"Green the Ghetto, and how much it won't cost us"

Monday, February 15, 2010

Nesmith Lane Performing Arts Center at 7p.m.

**Free and open to faculty, staff, and students,
as well as the general public**

A leading pioneer in economic sustainability, Majora Carter is an advocate of both our environment and economic success and seeks to promote ways in which they can mutually benefit each other.



**For More Information go to
www.georgiasouthern.edu/cr**

NOTICE TO YAZ USERS

**IF YOU, A FRIEND, OR A LOVED ONE HAVE TAKEN
YAZ BIRTH CONTROL PILLS AND HAVE HAD A GALL
BLADDER REMOVAL OPERATION, HAVE SUFFERED
DVTS OR OTHER SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH, YOU
MAY BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT:
ATTORNEY DAVID S. EICHHOLZ
(800) 665 - 2131**

**530 STEPHENSON AVENUE
SUITE 200
SAVANNAH, GA 31405**

CORRECTION

The article entitled "What's Up, Doc" in the January 26 edition of The George-Anne was written by Patrick Stoker.

Features Editor

Ryan Babula

(912) GSU-5246

features@georgiasouthern.edu

The Road to Graduation

pt. UN**

With only 100 days left for many seniors, it's obvious that life is no longer a game.

** UN = one

Special photo

Alli BRENNER
Student media intern

Exactly 100 days from now, May 8 will be here.

For some, this means the first day of summer -- a time to be sleeping in, getting ready for the beach, and realizing they don't have to wake up for classes again for three whole months.

Others will be waking early, dressing in a cap and gown, and not only starting their first day of summer, but their first day as a Georgia Southern graduate.

Knowing that there are only 100 days left, including weekends and Spring Break, can either be an exciting thought or a daunting one.

For those working at the Career Services, it means advising students as they try to navigate their world from undergraduate to employable adult.

"Students definitely need to be applying to positions and networking. Seventy-five to eighty percent of jobs are found through people you know, which is why networking is critical in the job process," Amy Rowell, assistant director of Career Services said.

Not all students are searching for jobs directly after earning their bachelor's degree.

"A lot of students are still hoping for full-time jobs but, because of the economy the way it is now, more and more students

tend to be leaning towards graduate school," Rowell said.

Although 100 days may sound like plenty of time, Rowell said students should start applying for either graduate school or professional jobs now.

"Different schools have different deadlines so it's not necessarily too late [to apply to graduate school]. Most schools have a March or April deadline but some are in September," Rowell said. "A job search takes nine months to a year from the time you apply to getting a job."

Besides advisement from the career center, Georgia Southern University offers other support for those about to graduate, as well as those preparing for their

futures.

On Feb. 24 at the RAC will be the "Eagle Expo career fair, where typically 60 companies come. Each company has a table where they collect resumes and students can talk to employees about jobs and networking," Rowell said. "I would really advise students to come to the fair and then come in [to the Career Services] use our services, and we'll critique your resumes."

Rowell also had advice for upcoming graduates.

"Be flexible given the current economy, be persistent and don't give up, and be willing to relocate," Rowell said. "And please come take advantage of the services we offer."

"I feel excited to be out of here; it took me five years! I'm excited to join the work force, but I'm still looking for a job. I'm nervous about finding one."

Kyle Anthony, Mechanical Engineering

"I'm a little worried because everyone asks you what you're doing with your life and now it actually matters. I feel like I have a lot of options and I don't know what I'm going to pick. I guess I'm excited also."

Caleb Alexander, International Trade

"I'm excited but I don't know what the future holds because it's hard to get a job. It feels like just yesterday that I got to Georgia Southern. I can't believe I'm graduating."

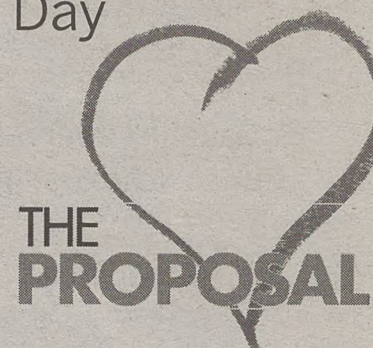
Alexis Frank, Education

"Knowing that May's graduation ceremony isn't the end of the my college career puts a slight damper on my excitement for the celebration. The transition, however is very exciting on many levels. May signifies the end of the bulk of my college studies, the beginning of my life as a husband, and the beginning of my professional life.

I think it was a character on Gilmore Girls (again, I'm getting married, so I have no reason to hide this) that said: College is breaking my spirit. Every day, people are telling me things I don't know. It's making me feel stupid. I'm finally past this frustration and excited to put what I didn't know into practice in the coming years."

Keith Warburg, Graphic Communications Management, executive editor - Student Media

Dinner and a movie planned for Valentine's Day



Derek JOYCE
Staff writer

On Feb. 2, the Auxillary Services Department will present their annual Dinner and a Movie at 6 p.m. at the Russell Union Ballroom. A special dinner featuring prime rib, vegetables, and cheesecake will be provided. A raffle for iTunes gift cards will take place as well.

The Dinner and a Movie premiered last year, showing "Fireproof" near Valentine's Day with catering by Catering Services for \$10. This year, "we really wanted to benefit our dining plan holders," said Allison Harper, the marketing coordinator for Dining Services. The food will be catered by Talon's Grille. While intended for a Valentine's Day showing, the Ballroom was only available for the 2nd.

Auxillary Services is in charge of Health Services, Dining Services, Housing, and Parking, and the University Store and shops. "We feel that dining plan holders can expect more events or promotions to occur in which they receive benefits by being dining plan holders," said Harper.

The event is free for people holding meal plans and \$10 for those who do not. Tickets are available through the Eagle Card Center until Friday, Jan 29. Seats are limited to 100 people.

Cinema Arts Series gears up for the spring

Derek JOYCE
Staff writer

Every Monday at 7:15 p.m. starting on Feb. 1, the John Humma Cinema Arts Series will be presented at the Russell Union Theater. This series will present seven foreign and/or independent films that will be sure to strike the interest of viewers.

The series is run by Tomasz Warchol from the Department of Literature and Philosophy.

The first film, "Transsiberian" is a 2008 film from the UK, Germany, and Lithuania and is about a couple who become close to fellow passengers on the Trans-Siberian Express who may be involved in drug trafficking.

Other movies in this series are "O'Horten," from Norway, about a forcibly retired train engineer and his attempt at life in retirement. Feb. 22 will feature "Frozen River," about

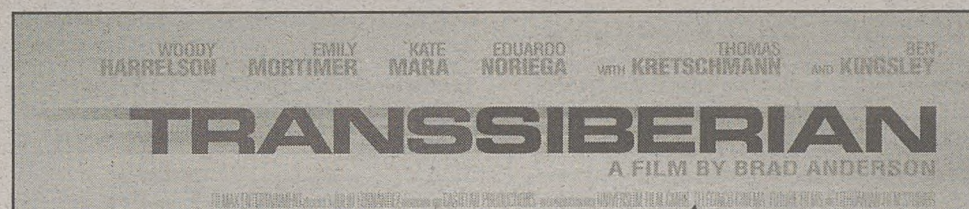
illegal immigrant smuggling.

"White Soup," playing on March 1, is based on a true story about a widowed mother's search for her grandchild's father. "White Soup" will be in Polish with English subtitles.

After a two week break, the series will resume on March 29 with "Revanche," an Austrian film about an ex-con and a prostitute's attempt to escape a brothel.

April 12 features "The Messenger," an American film about a man who informs families about their soldier's death. "The Messenger" won multiple domestic and international awards.

The final film of the series will be "The Burning Plain," which will be shown on April 26. The film is about one woman's travels that connect her with several characters grappling their romantic destinies and the power of forbidden love.



All special photos



January

28 **What:** Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World
Where: Georgia Southern Museum
When: All Day

What: Bouldering Night Out
Where: RAC
When: 7 p.m.

What: Eagle Men's Basketball vs. College of Charleston
Where: Hanner Fieldhouse
When: 7 p.m.

29 **What:** FREE MOVIE: "Where The Wild Things Are"

Where: Russell Union
When: 7 p.m.

What: Planetarium Public Evening - Astronomy-An Ancient Science by Dr. Anand Balaraman
Where: GSU Planetarium
When: 7 and 8 p.m.

What: Robert Morgan - Georgia Poetry Circuit
Where: College of Business Administration
When: 7 p.m.

30 **What:** Eagle Men's Basketball vs. College of Charleston
Where: Hanner Fieldhouse
When: 1 p.m.

CALENDAR

31 **What:** Glyphs and Scripts: Writing Systems of the World
Where: Georgia Southern Museum
When: All Day

February

01 **What:** Blake Mycoskie Lecture
Where: PAC
When: 7 p.m.

02 **What:** GSU Unplugged
Where: Russell Union
When: 7 p.m.

03 **What:** Battle To The Bone
Where: Landrum
When: 12 p.m.

What: Inner Tube Water Polo
Where: RAC
When: 7:30 p.m.

What: Intro To Climbing Clinic
Where: RAC
When: 8 p.m.

To submit calendar items to The George-Anne, stop by our office on the second floor of the Williams Center or e-mail us at features@georgiasouthern.edu. All entries should include the who, what, when and where plus your contact information.

14

Jan. 28,
2010

CLASSIFIEDS

TIMEWASTERS & COMICS

Got something to sell?
Visit Gadaily.com to post a
classified ad. It's free for
students and faculty!

Announcements 100 - 199

130 Lost & Found

My Pug dog OTIS has been missing since December 6th. He is 4 months old, fawn colored and about 15 pounds. If you have any information on him please contact me. Sara 912-288-6674

140 Other Announcements

GSU Club Softball is looking for more players. Experience preferred. Call 678-480-8617 or email gasouthernclubsoftball@gmail.com.

Buy or Sell 200 - 299

220 Auto Parts for Sale

A.R.E. LSII Series Truckbed cover for sale. Excellent condition. Currently on a green 2001 Toyota Tacoma 4-door. I am looking to get a full sized camper top, and hope to sell it to a good home. Call 229-942-6231.

240 Books for Sale

Survey of Accounting 8th edition. Used. \$50 OBO 912-690-2569

260 Miscellaneous for Sale

Black ICON Accelerant Jacket (MSRP \$400) and Black ICON Domain Decay Helmet (MSRP \$390) for sale. Only worn for a couple weeks, no damages and are practic new. Selling for \$200 each or \$350 together. Call 770-881-1980.

Minature Dachshunds for Sale: \$150 each, CKC registered, first shots and wormed. lfechter@georgiasouthern.edu

I have a full/twin wood bunk-bed set for \$100 or best offer. Full will need a mattress. I also have an X-box with games and a PlayStation 2 with games for best offer. Wayne @912-536-4489

1 year old white Whirlpool Roper extra large capacity dryer for sale. Works great, minor scratches

on top. Asking \$100. Call Tiffany (912)690-4986.

Employment & Job Services 300 - 399

350 Jobs/Full Time

IBARTENDERS WANTED! \$250 a Day Potential. No Experience Necessary. Training Provided. Age 18+ OK Call 1-800-965-6520 ext 296

Housing & Real Estate 400 - 499

410 Apartments

1Br/1Ba, 2Br/2Ba, and 4Br/3Ba Apts Close to GSU; Pool, Tennis, volleyball & more; From \$175/room. 912-667-9142 or 912-667-6772

Female needed in a 2BR/2BA apt @ The Garden District. All inclusive including all utilities plus wireless internet. W/D in unit. Tanning beds, Fitness Center and a 24hr security. 912-288-4262

1 BR with private bath, large window, fully furnished for sublease now, located at the Pointe @ Southern. There are 3 great female roommates. Can trade for different apt at complex. \$339w/utilities. Call 678-431-0549.

420 Lofts & Rooms

ROOM FOR RENT in private home, furnished, all utilities included, access to kitchen, cable, internet, W/D. minutes to GSU and Ogeechee Tech. \$400/ Month Call Ed at (912)531-5223

450 Roommates

Roommates needed for Spring semester at Cambridge! Give me a call! Great prices, beautiful pool, and close to campus! 912.681.2262

480 Sub Leases

1 br in an all-inclusive 2br/2ba apartment in The Woodlands. 1 female roommate. Only \$399/ month!!! Call 803-528-7039 if interested.

\$400/month. Fully furnished, covered parking, 2 pools, hot tub, and gym. Female roommate needed for female living there now. Rate negotiable. First come first serve. Call or e-mail for more info. Call 770-298-3228.

sublease Jan. - July 31, 2010
The Exchange
all inclusive, fully furnished
male
1bed/ 1 bath in a 2bed/2bath apartment
\$469 per month.
call 229-424-2201

I need someone to take over my sublease in The Woodlans for Spring 2010. \$490/month-all inclusive.Pets ALLOWED! (deposit and monthly fee already paid)Pool,gym,computer lab! Ready ASAP!! Call 845-642-2030.

Take over rent on master bed in Hammocks until July. 1male roommate there and easy to get along with.Ready to move in.Washer and dryer included \$387.50 a month. Call 706-564-3560.

*SUBLEASE: Spring/Summer Semester 2010
-1 BR/Private Bath (largest bath) in a 4 BR Apt.
*Campus Crossings: Great Location!
-Walking distance to campus
*3 female roommates
-Friendly, easy going, and clean
PRICE NEGOTIABLE
<http://www.campusapts.com/Home.aspx?Proj=122>
Please contact me at: rachelraubolt@yahoo.com

Spend the next year in a nice 3 bedroom house in Whispering Pines Sub. Close to Campus. Two rooms avail. Only \$350 / mon + utilities. call Dan 404.273.9707

This is a beautiful 2-Story Home in a secluded neighborhood near campus. Looking to sublease ASAP, rent is \$750 a month + utilities. Please contact me via email.

Sublease 1 br in a 3 br house in the Landings for Spring 2010. Rent:365 plus utilities, pets allowed. Large living space, large closets, nice backyard, plenty of parking. Contact 678-983-2762

\$399 4bd/ba at Campus Club fully furnished, w/d, new furniture.New clubhouse, tanning beds, gym. First stop on bus route. Girl only. FIRST MONTHS RENT FREE. Call (478)397-2801.

1 bedroom with private bathroom in nice, quiet neighborhood. Can be furnished or unfurnished. Move in by March 1. Rent is \$325/month plus utilities. Great roommate, easy to get along with. Call 330-464-6508.

2 Room furnished apt. with kitchenette in private home close to GSU. All utilities and cable furnished. \$350./Month No pets. Contact Carlton Bowen at (912) 764-4132

Services 600 - 699

610 Education & Tutoring

Need help with classes this semester? Experienced

tutoring for Macro/Micro Econ + all levels of Span. GSU Department Tutor experience + very flexible schedule. Just \$15/hr. Email mmccorvey1@gmail.com

3 years experience as less-than-10 small Japanese classes tutor at Georgia Perimeter College. Text Genki provided.
I am from Tokyo. Call 678-549-3643.

George-Anne & Joe

Come and jump start your morning with a cup of Joe and a George-Anne in hand.

Starting @ 7:30am, every Thursday at the Gazebo between the Union and the Library.



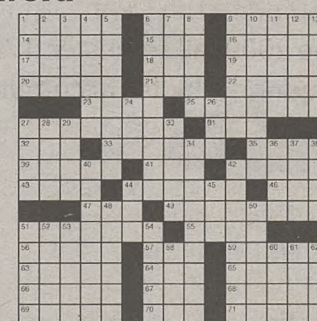
Sponsored by: **Latte & Pastry**
721 S. Main Street
(912) 681-3285



Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Church table
- 6 Derek and Jackson
- 9 Actor's platform
- 14 Drench
- 15 Pacer maker, briefly
- 16 Large villages
- 17 Uneasy feeling
- 18 Australian joey
- 19 Opera songs
- 20 Penny pincher
- 21 Pull behind
- 22 Present, e.g.
- 23 Daytona 500 or Indy, e.g.
- 25 Slide
- 27 Subway stops
- 31 Motel
- 32 Old card game
- 33 Absolutely not!
- 35 Roosevelt follower
- 39 Bancroft and Baxter
- 41 New Haven student
- 42 WWII riveter
- 43 Young adult
- 44 Former Spanish dictator
- 46 Printer's spaces
- 47 TV guide abbr.
- 49 Belgrade
- 51 Waiting
- 55 Earth orbiter
- 56 Privileged few
- 57 Youth grp.
- 59 Gas containers
- 63 Log structure
- 64 Mare's morsel
- 65 Shiraz resident
- 66 Wept
- 67 Cycle starter?
- 68 More adorable
- 69 Stock up on
- 70 Shamus
- 71 Tucks away



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1/28/09

Solutions

5 Gets back into shape
6 Mixologist
7 Herman Melville novel
8 Flat boats
9 Island, NY
10 Ripped open
11 Inspiring reverence
12 Grind together
13 Slalom curves
14 Pigeon call
15 NNI SNOIIVIS
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54 Circa
55 Rational
56 Doing the same
57 Allied org.
58 Recognized
59 Islamic holy city
60 Knights

Quick Hits

▲ Baseball Alumni Weekend is scheduled for GSU's three-game series against Holy Cross on Feb. 26-28.

▲ Eagle basketball announces it will retire Chester Webb's number 22 jersey before Saturday's basketball game against College of Charleston.

▲ GSU volleyball announces it will host three camps during the 2010 summer. The Individual Camp is set for July 15-17, Team Training is set for July 16-18 and Team Competition is set for July 19-20.

▲ Seven GSU student-athletes were named to the President's list while 16 were named to the Dean's list for the 2009 fall semester. 179 student-athletes accumulated a 3.0 GPA or higher.

▲ Cheerleader for a Day will be Saturday at 9 a.m. inside Hanner Fieldhouse. Participants will perform at halftime during the men's basketball game against College of Charleston.

▲ Men's tennis to open their home schedule Sunday against USC Upstate at 10 a.m.; women's tennis will play at 2 p.m., both at the Hanner Tennis Complex.

News from the Nest

Basketball to honor Webb

Ceremony planned for halftime of Saturday's game against College of Charleston

GSU News Service

Chester Webb, the all-time leading scorer and rebounder in the history of the Georgia Southern men's basketball program, will have his No. 22 jersey retired on Saturday, January 30. The ceremony will take place at halftime of the College of Charleston-Georgia Southern game which is scheduled for 1 p.m.

A 6'7", 180-pound center from Elberton, Ga., Webb was named to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution collegiate all-state team for four years, the first individual to earn the honor every year of his career.

Selected as an All-American after the 1955 and 1956 seasons, Webb was picked in the NBA draft following his senior year. Webb's jersey number is only the fourth to be retired in the history of the program.

The other three retired jersey banners hanging in Hanner include Scotty Perkins (No. 15), Jeff Sanders (No. 42) and Michael Curry (No. 20).

Webb's basketball career -- and his life -- was influenced by Roger Parsons, who had played basketball at Georgia Teachers College for the legendary J.B. Scarce. When Parsons became the new basketball coach at Elbert County High School, he couldn't understand why Chester Webb -- the tallest boy in the school -- wasn't on the basketball team.

Despite not playing "organized" basketball, Webb was no stranger to the sport. He would play at home, using a tire rim affixed to the barn as a hoop, but the five-mile distance from the high school to his family's farm might as well have been 500 miles. It simply wasn't practical for Webb to walk home after basketball practice.

Parsons eventually talked Webb into coming out for the team and was willing to drive Webb home in his pickup truck after practice each day.

Webb, the tallest among his eight siblings, was a naturally gifted athlete. He made the all-state team as a senior and scored the most points in the Region 2-A Tournament for the Blue Devils. Selected to play for the North team in the state's annual North-South all-star game, Webb received scholarship offers from both the University of Georgia and Clemson University.

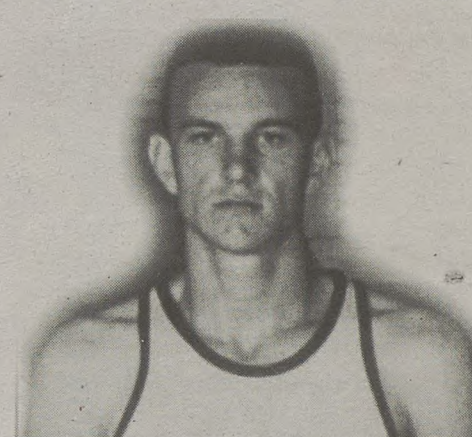
It seemed a natural progression for Webb to follow his coach's path and accept a full scholarship

22

Chester Webb

Webb's Career Stats

- ▲ Points: 2,542
- ▲ Rebounds: 1,685
- ▲ Field Goals: 883
- ▲ Free Throws: 776
- ▲ Points Per Game: 24



to attend college in Statesboro and play basketball for "The Professors."

A four-year starter, Webb would not only earn a place on the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's all-state collegiate team, but would be the first freshman ever selected for that prestigious squad. Four years later, as a senior, the Professors' No. 22 was the only unanimous choice of the senior college coaches who voted for the team.

If the basketball coaches of the state of Georgia thought Webb was something special, he was even more highly regarded for his abilities on campus. One of the most prolific scorers and one of the best all-around players in the history of the program, Webb's name is etched in the record book 18 times, and his records stand out with 2,542 points and 1,685 rebounds.

His single-season scoring averages for the 1954-55 and 1955-56 seasons rank as the two highest. Over his collegiate career, he scored more than 40 points nine times and more than 30 points in 15 games, more than any other player.

Webb not only set many individual records at GTC, but also helped set team records and achieve success at the state, regional and national level.

"The biggest difference between our team at GTC and other teams, was that most tall people weren't quick," said Webb, who holds the distinction of being the first native Georgian to be selected as a basketball All-American in the state of Georgia. "We were pretty tall, we were agile and we could run."

After graduating with his degree in physical education, Webb received an invitation to join the 1956 U.S. Olympic basketball team and was drafted by the Nationals of the National Basketball Association in what would be the equivalent of today's first round.

The United States' Army had a different draft pick in mind for Webb and he served his country for two years. With his basketball skills, Webb was quickly recruited to play for the Army and picked as a member of the All-Army basketball team where Webb and his teammates played in AAU tournaments.

Webb fulfilled his military service and then signed on to play basketball with the Gibbs Corporation in the industrial league. He ended his professional basketball career, but did not leave basketball behind, beginning a career in public education, where the sport continued to play a large role in his life.

A high school basketball coach for six years in Appling County, Webb took two teams to the state playoffs.

He returned to his hometown of Elberton and coached his high school team for seven years and while also teaching woodworking.

With positions in school administration and supervision, including time as the principal of two elementary schools, Webb also served as director of two county-wide programs and as Assistant Superintendent of Elbert County Schools for eight years.

Column

Different look at GSU sports

Thom CUNNINGHAM
sports editor

A lot has happened in a short period of time for Georgia Southern athletics. Looking at the track record, football has a new head coach, basketball has been punished for academic fraud and the athletic director has been under fire for almost a year now.

So much drama has occurred you would think the athletic department turned into an episode of *The Hills*.

What has worked for me when dealing with negative news in sports is to look at all angles of a story and have fun with it.

For example, Nolan Myrick was the assistant coach for men's basketball before he was suspended in February of 2009. Although the NCAA report never named the assistant coach who committed academic fraud, Myrick's coaching bio listed him as the team's academic enhancer.

Academic enhancer? What are the job duties of an academic enhancer? The irony in that job title is to obvious to make fun of.

Seriously, an academic enhancer? Since when did BALCO start getting involved with academics? Did he improve our student-athletes' GPAs with steroids and syringes?

Athletic director Sam Baker commented on the academic fraud situation by saying, "There was a moment when he decided to act in an improper manner, and broke NCAA and institutional rules."

Now I might be getting to political here, but there was more than just a moment in which academic fraud was committed. As a matter of fact, there were many moments that occurred during the 2007-2008 academic terms.

Was it the moment when he pretended to be a student during online chats or was it the moment he got a high school teacher to write an essay paper?

Perhaps it was the moment he took over academic duties for a student-athlete after the former director of operations resigned because he couldn't continue with academic dishonesty.

The whole situation is messier than Don King's hairstyle, but that doesn't mean the university can't clean it up.

Baker has been under a lot of fire with all of these issues going around on campus. What happens when you make a mess? You should probably clean it up, and Sam Baker has been trying his best to clean up all these messes.

Say what you will about our athletic director, but also realize that he is trying to improve the athletic department as best he can. Still, many fans feel that Baker's time here should come to an end for various reasons.

If you were to ask me, the situation where students were asked to put down their signs during a football game was a bit of an overreaction.

In case you didn't know, during one of GSU's home football games last season, students were asked to put down signs they had made from home. Controversy rose because one of the signs had "Fire Sam Baker" written on it.

Immediately after the situation occurred, Facebook groups and web sites were asking for Baker to be fired because students couldn't say what they wanted to.

I understand there are many reasons as to why people believe Baker should be fired, but to say he should be fired because you can't hold up a sign is a little far-fetched.

Baker wasn't even responsible for the signs being put down.

Stealing money from the university, sleeping with co-workers, and drinking or smoking on the job are reasons someone should be fired, not because you can't hold a sign up at a game.

Like I said, I understand there are different reasons as to why people feel Baker should be fired; but for that specific situation, it seems a little ridiculous.

All the focus of improving athletics seems to be with the personnel of this university. GSU can improve its athletics in ways that don't require people to lose their jobs, however.

One topic that has been overlooked by a majority of the students is the situation with the soccer teams. No, I'm not talking about their records; rather, the fields they play their home games on.

Many students and fans don't know this, but the soccer squads have to play their home games during the day because their fields don't have any lights.

Now I don't know if it's because we can't afford lights or if were converting to the Amish way of life, but getting lights for the soccer teams would be a way to improve the athletic department without anyone losing jobs.

I'm not saying people shouldn't be fired if they don't fulfill their job duties, but there are other ways to improve the athletic department that don't deal with personnel changes.

A lot of controversy has hit the athletic department as of lately.

After two semesters of hearing nothing but complaints, criticisms and academic fraud, it's nice to take a laid back approach to the most annoying situations that just won't seem to die.

Don't let the negative news bring doubt into your minds. Take the good, move forward and have fun with the rest.

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